

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:POAKLEY:EK

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

NEA - HSAUNDERS

S/S - JPMOFFAT

IO - WBBUFFUM

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T STATE 104317

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNESCO, XF

SUBJECT: ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES AT 97TH UNESCO EXBD

REF: PARIS 11083

1. RECOGNIZE VALIDITY OF FACTORS YOU CITE IN PARAS 9-14
REFTEL. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF STRONG REPRESENTATIONS FROM
AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AND, TO SOME
EXTENT, FROM CONGRESS, DEPT HAS DECIDED IT NOW IN US BEST
INTERESTS TO MAKE EFFORT BEHIND SCENES DURING COMING EXBD
TO "ACHIEVE PROGRESS TOWARDS REVERSAL" UNESCO'S ANTI-
ISRAEL DECISIONS, AS DEPT WAS MANDATED TO DO UNDER CASE-
BINGHAM AMENDMENT WHICH CUT OF U.S. FUNDING FOR UNESCO.
WITH LATTER IN MIND, AT MINIMUM WE NEED TO BE IN A POSITION
TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE MADE GOOD FAITH EFFORT AT EXBD TO
ACHIEVE PROGRESS. WE ALSO WISH, IF POSSIBLE, TO BE ABLE
TO POINT TO SOME EXBD DECISION WHICH WE CAN HONESTLY
CHARACTERIZE AS "PROGRESS TOWARDS" SOLUTION UNESCO'S

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PROBLEMS. WE REALIZE THAT IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE

THIS, BUT WE AT LEAST WANT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT A REASON-
ABLE EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE.

2. WE THINK BEST CHANCES FOR PROGRESS LIE IN EFFORTS
WHICH COULD LEAD TO EVENTUAL ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP IN
EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP. WE DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE
DIFFICULTIES YOU WILL FACE IN ACHIEVING RESULTS OF THIS
KIND IN VIEW OF EUROPEAN RELUCTANCE TO HAVE THIS ISSUE
RAISED AT EXBD MEETING. ACCORDINGLY, DEPT DESIRES FURTHER
VIEWS FROM YOU AND FROM USDEL TO EXBD, ON BASIS CONSULTA-
TIONS WITH SECRETARIAT AND OTHER EXBD DELEGATIONS
(BEGINNING WITH EUROPEANS) ON ADVANTAGES AND ACCEPTA-
BILITY OF VARIOUS MEASURES TO MEET OR PARTIALLY MEET
PROBLEM OF ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN GROUP. YOU MAY
EXPLAIN THAT US EFFORTS AT UNESCO EXBD ARE IN PURSUIT OF
US INTERESTS IN TRYING TO MAINTAIN US ROLE IN UNESCO.

3. FOLLOWING POSSIBILITIES COME TO MIND:

A. EXBD RECOMMENDATION TO 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE TO
REVIEW AND RECONSIDER REGIONAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP QUESTION.

B. A RESOLUTION OR STATEMENT BY EXBD REAFFIRMING UNESCO'S
BASIC PRINCIPLES RELATING TO UNIVERSALITY, "THE
INTELLECTUAL AND MORAL SOLIDARITY OF MANKIND",
"FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND KNOWLEDGE" AND IN PARTICULAR
UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 46.1 ON
REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
RECOGNIZED "THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES WHEREBY EVERY
MEMBER STATE HAS THE RIGHT AND DUTY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY
AND REGULARLY IN THE ORGANIZATION'S REGIONAL AND INTER-
NATIONAL ACTIVITIES."

C. RESOLUTION OR STATEMENT OF EXBD SUPPORTING DG M'BOW'S
CLOSING STATEMENT TO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE ON AVOIDING
"SYSTEMATIC CONFRONTATIONS" AND "RESOLUTIONS WHICH
CAUSE GREAT BITTERNESS" AND REITERATING AGREEMENT WITH
DG'S STATEMENT ON "NEED FOR CONSISTENT WILLINGNESS TO
ENCOURAGE IN DIALOGUE".

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4. PERMDEL SHOULD ADVISE ISRAELI MISSION GENERALLY THAT
WE ARE ATTEMPTING FIRST STEPS TO "ACHIEVE PROGRESS TOWARDS
REVERSAL" OF UNESCO'S ANTI-ISRAELI DECISIONS IN CON-
SULTATIONS WITH OTHER E BD MEMBERS. WE PREFER THIS
APPROACH BE MADE IN PARIS, NOT TEL AVIV OR WASHINGTON,
SINCE WE WISH TO TREAT IN LOW-KEY MANNER.

5. OTHER EXBD DELS MAY HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR OTHER

FORMULAS WHICH MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE TO A MAJORITY IN EXBD
EITHER AT THIS OR AT SOME EARLY MEETING. OURPRESENT

INCLINATION WOULD BE TO INTRODUCE OR SUPPORT RESOLUTION
RELATED TO MEMBERSHIP ONLY IF VOTES EXIST TO PASS RESOLU-
TION. WE ARE SENSITIVE TO DANGERS YOU MENTION OF
INFLAMING SITUATION, AND WE BELIEVE DISCREET, IF STRONG
SOUNDINGS BY SCHERER, YOU AND OTHER MEMBERS DELIVER TO
EXBD WILL ACCOMPLISH OUR OBJECTIVES OUTLINED ABOVE AND
WILL BRING HOME TO OTHER DELS THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH
WE CONTINUE TO REGARD GC'S ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIONS.

6. WE BELIEVE IT PROBABLY ALSO DESIRABLE TO PARALLEL YOUR
SOUNDINGS WITH DEMARCHES IN AT LEAST SOME EUROPEAN
CAPITALS, AND WE WOULD LIKE YOUR JUDGMENT ASAP ON
WHETHER APPROACHES WOULD BE USEFUL FOR YOUR EFFORT. IF
SO, WHAT CAPITALS SHOULD BE APPROACHED AND WHEN? IN YOUR
REPORTING ON YOUR CONTACTS IN PARIS, YOU SHOULD KEEP IN
MIND THAT WE HAVE STRONG REQUIREMENT TO BE ABLE LATER IN
TALKS WITH CONGRESS TO DOCUMENT IN ANY WAY WE CAN FACT
THAT WE HAVE BEEN MAKING EFFORTS IN DIRECTION REQUIRED BY
CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION.

7. WHILE DEPT THINKS BEST CHANCE FOR EVENTUAL SUCCESS IS
ON EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP QUESTION AND THAT THIS
SHOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY ATTENTION, WE WILL ALSO BE
RECEPTIVE TO IDEAS FROM FRIENDS ON WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO
TURN UNESCO AROUND ON JERUSALEM QUESTION. YOU SHOULD NOT
PUT FORWARD ANY IDEAS OF YOUR OWN ON JERUSALEM ISSUE AT
THIS TIME BUT CONFINE YOURSELF TO LOW KEY QUESTIONING OF
OUR FRIENDS ON HOW JERUSALEM ISSUE MIGHT BE RESOLVED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CULTURAL PROPERTY, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE104317
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: POAKLEY:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750157-0349
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750580/aaaacvoo.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 PARIS 11083
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <01 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES AT 97TH UNESCO EXBD
TAGS: PORG, XF, IS, US, UNESCO
To: PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006